

Motivating students with links to real-life industry

Centre name:	 Archbishop Beck Catholic Sports College
Region:	 Liverpool
Area type:	 Inner-city
Number of students:	 1200

School type:	 Roman Catholic (voluntary aided school)
Ofsted rating:	 Requires improvement
Pupil premium %	 40%
EAL %	 5%

Archbishop Beck Catholic Sports College is surrounded by local industry, such as hospitals and transportation. Through offering BTECs, they've developed relationships with these employers, who now enrich students' learning with work experience, lectures, mock interviews, and more.

Archbishop Beck has found that when students are given the opportunity to engage with local places of work, their motivation to learn increases. They are suddenly able to see how their classroom learning relates to real-life industry and employment in the local area. On top of this, they also gain valuable employability skills, enhancing their CVs and supporting their next steps in education or employment.

The school also finds that the format of BTEC qualifications contributes to students' motivation. Attainment doesn't rest on one final exam, but instead there are assignments throughout the course which contribute to the final grade. This shows students the results of their work as they go along, and they can see that by doing a little extra work they could achieve that higher grade. For Archbishop Beck, this makes a huge difference to the engagement of the students in their learning.

“ We want to give our students the best choice to get the best results possible, and we feel that BTEC qualifications really support our students in this. ”

Paul Stirling,
Deputy Head at Archbishop Beck Catholic Sports College

Archbishop Beck Catholic Sports College has the **best Value Added Scores** in the county of Merseyside (2017)





Student spotlight

Name: **Rebecca**

I'm currently studying for the BTEC First Award in Business alongside my GCSEs. The BTEC has really helped with my other subjects, especially my writing and comprehension skills for English. It's also helped me improve my communication skills and become much more confident.

My favourite project has been developing and marketing our own product, in a group. We've developed an energy drink! The project has helped me to see how my business learning translates into real-life products and employment.

Next year I'm going to be progressing on to A Level Business, and my BTEC in business has given me the skills and knowledge I need to do this.

2/3rds of students choose to take one or more BTECs in the Sixth Form